

The Chronicle

JULY-AUGUST 2006

NEWSLETTER OF THE
MARICOPA COUNTY ADULT PROBATION DEPARTMENT

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Chiefly Speaking: "What's in a Name?"



I'm sure you've heard the expression, "the more things change, the more they stay the same." Take for example the name change to Bank One Ballpark. It became Chase Field, but you still see the Diamondbacks. The team is still in the National League and subject to the same rules governing a major league franchise. The same can be said for America West Arena. It became US Airways Center, but the Suns are still running up and down the court against the same opponents. The team is still a part of the NBA and subject to all the regulations affecting that professional sport. What did change were major sponsors and new relationships with new stakeholders.

In many respects, our Department is in a similar situation to the Diamondbacks and the Suns. As a result of the budget crisis in fiscal year 2003, we switched our major funding source from the State to the County. This was a three-year experiment that the Legislature, the Court and the County entered into under HB 2533. The major emphasis of this piece of legislation was to return the Department to capacities with staff and services that existed prior to December 2002. With full funding from the County, this was quickly achieved. HB 2533 ushered in a new era in our relationship with the County. Suddenly, things like Managing for Results (MFR) and Budgeting for Results took on a whole new meaning. But, so did things like market studies, salary adjustments, and pay for performance, thanks to the County.

This fiscal year, HB 2533 was replaced with SB 2819, which made county funding permanent. While it may appear we are a county operated agency, the fact remains we are still part of the Judicial Branch of government. Except for the funding, our relationship with the Supreme Court, AOC, Superior Court and Court Administration has essentially stayed the same.

Statutes affecting probation, the powers and duties of probation offices, and Administrative Orders from the Supreme Court are still in effect. They determine supervision standards, officer certification, defensive tactics training and arming, reporting requirements (commonly known as monthly stats and APETS), and standards for the use of assessments and case plans. AOC still has operational oversight, too. They recently completed an Operational Review that examined nearly all of our business practices. AOC also provides representation to the Legislature on our behalf. For example, they have been actively involved in finalizing the 20-year retirement package for officers.

It would be a mistake to assume that our new funding arrangement has diminished our relationship with the Court. Instead, think of it as enhancing our relationship with the County. The reason this all works is fairly simple. We are all working for the same thing...public safety. Our MFR plan and evidence-based initiative are in complete alignment with the Court's Strategic Agenda, the County's Managing for Results Goals and the language in SB 2819.

Unlike the Diamondbacks and the Suns, we don't have to change the signage at our facilities. We are still the Adult Probation Department, Superior Court of Arizona, Maricopa County. Perhaps there is just a little more emphasis on "Maricopa" these days.



The Chronicle

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Arizona Supreme Court 2006 Awards



L to r: Chief Justice McGreggor, Susan Tierney and Vice-Chief Justice Rebecca White-Birch

Award for Serving the Community by Improving the Legal Profession

David Tierney, Esq

(accepting award for David Tierney, Susan Tierney)

Mr. David Tierney served on an advisory committee that helped the Maricopa County Adult Probation Department with strategic planning and prioritizing. The Restorative Justice Resources Coalition (RCJC) assists probationers and probation programs. Mr. Tierney spearheaded development of the RCJC and has been an active board member since RCJC's inception. The organization has assisted GED graduates of LEARN Centers. Project LEARN, established by the Arizona Supreme Court, addresses the high correlation between crime and illiteracy and teaches juveniles and adults to read and write. The coalition's efforts have centered on selecting and supporting projects that benefit the community and use the labor of supervised probationers completing community service to repair and upgrade buildings and properties.

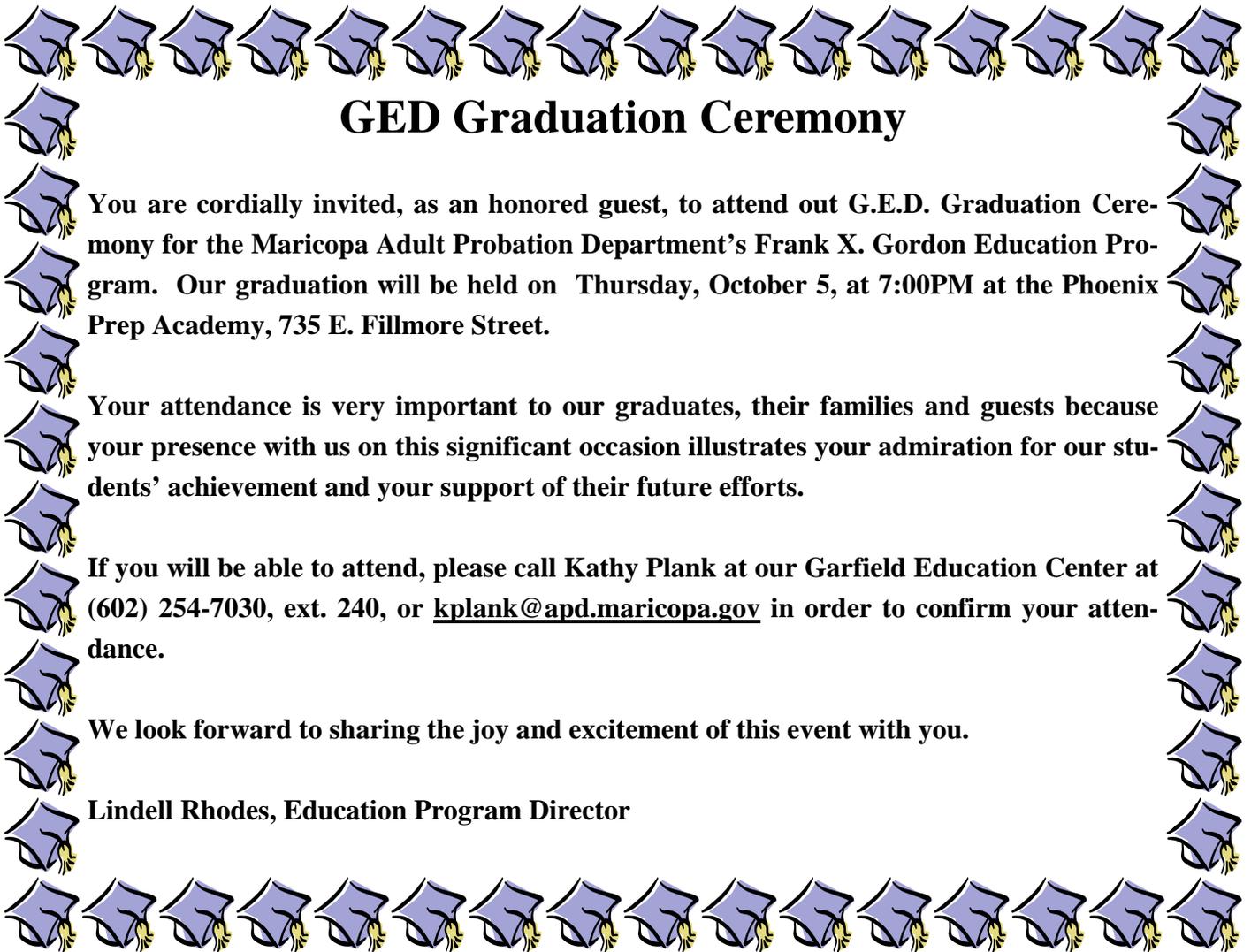


Chief Justice McGreggor, Julia & Bill Harkins, Elizabeth Rose Anderson (Bill's step-daughter), & Vice-Chief Justice Rebecca White-Birch

Employees Being Accountable Award

*Williams J. Harkins III, Probation Officer
Superior Court in Maricopa County*

Bill Harkins has served eight years in the Fugitive Apprehension Unit of the Adult Probation Department. As a member of this unit, he has arrested high-level sex offenders, violent offenders and cases that have drawn public attention. Officer Harkins consistently produced excellent arrest numbers. Fellow employees know Bill as a team player and someone who is always available to help. Highly respected among his peers and supervisors, Officer Harkins is dedicated to the department's mission and always acts professionally.



GED Graduation Ceremony

You are cordially invited, as an honored guest, to attend out G.E.D. Graduation Ceremony for the Maricopa Adult Probation Department's Frank X. Gordon Education Program. Our graduation will be held on Thursday, October 5, at 7:00PM at the Phoenix Prep Academy, 735 E. Fillmore Street.

Your attendance is very important to our graduates, their families and guests because your presence with us on this significant occasion illustrates your admiration for our students' achievement and your support of their future efforts.

If you will be able to attend, please call Kathy Plank at our Garfield Education Center at (602) 254-7030, ext. 240, or kplank@apd.maricopa.gov in order to confirm your attendance.

We look forward to sharing the joy and excitement of this event with you.

Lindell Rhodes, Education Program Director

Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors formally recognized Bill Harkins in a ceremony at the County Administration building on August 14, 2006. Supervisor Fulton Brock talked about Bill's many contributions as a county employee and the honors he has received at the local, state and national level for his work. Bill was presented with a plaque recognizing his bravery and service to the citizens of Maricopa County, and he was personally thanked by each supervisor.

The on-duty incident in which Bill was injured occurred one year ago. Bill is looking forward to returning to work on a limited basis in the very near future and we are all looking forward to his return.



Bill Harkins with the Warrants Unit and Chief Broderick

SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

By Ed Guerro



2 New Jersey National Guard members

The war in Iraq has touched all of our lives in one way or another. Our brave men and women deployed in harm's way are giving of themselves daily. If you're like me, we wish we could do more for them and their families.

Most of you probably don't know that our Adult Probation Department did support our troops in a very unique way. Since May 2005 we "jumped on the bandwagon" that several New Jersey and New York police chiefs initiated. Rather than destroying their used vests, these police chiefs started a project to collect and send these vests to the war zone.

So beginning last May, we sent a total of 617 used vests to help increase the protection of our troops. These vests were used to line trucks and Humvees for added protection. All of our vests are now "beefing up" the protection of our troops inside their vehicles.

Before this project began, our vests would normally be shipped to a company for destruction. Instead vests were shipped to the New Jersey Orange County National Guard. From there, they are shipped to Iraq for installation. One of the Army commanders described the process like this: if a vehicle is going out on patrol or convoy, and it doesn't have the vests in it and another truck is in for repairs-- they pull the vests out of the truck being repaired and put them into the one that's going out the gate. Even though some of the trucks and Humvees had armor added to them, the soldiers were given the option to put the vests into their trucks and Humvees. Everyone opted for the extra protection.

According to Sgt. Robert Fischer, Army Guard member at Orange County Armory, this program was a big morale booster for our troops. Our men and women were reminded that their country is doing everything we can to support them. Having deployed to Saudi Arabia three times myself, I can personally confirm that any reminder that our country is behind us IS a big morale booster. I felt compelled to write this and was also encouraged by several of our fellow officers to let our department know how we supported our troops abroad.

We also sent over 100 used vests to Luke Air Force Base. For a period of time, airmen donned the vests during training in simulated combat conditions. The photo shows MSgt Dave Leon and TSgt Rouse, assigned to the Logistics Readiness Squadron, unloading these vests.

Linda Etarri was instrumental in allowing this process change. And it goes to prove that if a process change is worth changing, it is bound to happen. We can always look at the various business processes we are part of and usually can find better ways to do our business. What's unique about this process change is that it literally turned salvage into gold when in another customer's hands.

Body Armor Quote:

“An officer not wearing armor is 14 times more likely to suffer a fatal injury than an officer who is.”

NIJ Journal # 254, 7/06 : <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/jr000254.pdf>

Crime Fighting Collaboration

Maria Amaya



Top & Bottom: Photos from a recent Meth Lab bust.

The Adult Probation Department's Fugitive Apprehension and Revocation Division collaborates with the U.S. Marshal's task force and HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas) Meth Lab Task Force to target high intensity drug trafficking areas. Recently the Meth Lab Task Force requested that the Adult Probation Department assign one officer to the task force. In addition to working



Top & Bottom: Photos from a recent Meth Lab bust.

with the U.S. Marshal and HIDTA, the APD warrants officers work jointly with Mesa Police Department warrant officers on apprehending individuals who have absconded from probation. The APD officers meet on a regular basis with a specialized team of officers from the various precincts in search of



probation absconders. These teams are X-Ray squads, Special Assignments Unit, and Rapid Deployment officers. Furthermore, specialized sex offender and neighborhood round-ups have taken place throughout the valley in coordination with local law enforcement. In outlying areas where police assistance is scarce, the Adult Probation Department joins with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.



A CLEAN SLATE

Marilyn Windust

Recently the Garfield Organization, in conjunction with Adult Probation and the City of Phoenix, organized graffiti "Paint - Out day". The goal was to completely cover any and all graffiti in the Garfield neighborhood. Probationers and probation officers worked alongside neighbors and community volunteers, painting walls, fences, and abandoned buildings. The event was a huge success fueled by donated breakfast burritos from The Ranch Market and wings from Hooter's.

L to r:: William, Onorio, David, James, and **PO Mike Moe**





Before



Now

“I finally got it.”

By APO Jodie Mertens

Ruben Cardenas has been in the criminal justice system since he was fourteen years old. He had many run-ins with police, juvenile probation, and juvenile detention. He was involved in gangs, drugs (namely methamphetamine), and any sort of criminal activity one can imagine. His criminal behavior carried over to his adult life, landing him on probation in 2001. I assumed supervision of Ruben’s case in December of 2001. He was on probation for theft of means of transportation for four years. I supervised Ruben a short five months before he committed another new offense, including

drug and chop-shop charges.

He was reinstated to intensive probation in June of 2002. By September, he had another warrant issued for his arrest for noncompliance in nearly all areas of his probation grant. He was arrested in December of 2002 with new charges, including burglary and possession of dangerous drugs. He was sentenced to the Department of Corrections for three and a half years for two cases, and had a three-year probation tail for his possession of dangerous drugs offense.

Since his release, Ruben has made remarkable changes in his life. He has remained in full compliance of his conditions of probation. While he has only been back in the community for six months, he is confident that he has learned to live a law-abiding lifestyle, and is determined to make it in life. In various discussions with me, Ruben has indicated that his time in prison gave him perspective on his life, and made him realize what is important. He is grateful for his probation grant, and is confident that he will successfully complete probation. He even hopes to be early terminated upon completion of all of his special conditions of probation.

When I asked Ruben what made him change, he simply said “I just finally got it”. He stopped using methamphetamine, which has made a significant difference in his personality and perspective. He stated that sobering up in prison was the main step for him, as that opened up his mind to accepting that he had an addiction. He said he became open-minded to the programs while in the DOC, and took advantage of all that was offered. I’ve included a picture of him from February of 2002, and a current picture of him, illustrating the changes he made in appearance as a result of his drug use. Additionally, he severed all ties with his gang affiliations, stating that he realized while he was in the DOC who his true friends were. Ruben said that he not only has learned to live a clean lifestyle, but he has also been making efforts in other areas of life to live responsibly. Every paycheck, he tries to save \$150.00 that he puts into his savings account. He spends time with his kids and family. He has two young daughters, and married their mother on July 1, 2006. Recently, I spoke to Ruben about possibly speaking out at schools to inform kids of his past lifestyle, and how there are other paths available to at-risk youth. When this possibility was mentioned, Ruben immediately agreed to prepare a presentation that he could use to share his story. He was very excited about helping kids, and trying to teach them the dangers of getting involved in gangs, drugs, and other illegal activities that tempt teens. I believe that he will prove to be a role model to these teens and that he has the ability to help change at least some of their futures.

While he still has time remaining on his probation grant, I wanted to share the progress that Ruben has made with the rest of the Department. We all need as much encouragement as we can get to ensure us that this job we are doing is making a difference in the community. Ruben has shown me that probation does work, and that people can change. He has made me realize that despite past behaviors, there is always hope for a better, brighter future, should the person want it bad enough. Ruben wants it. He’s on his way to getting it. Let’s just hope that others will continue to do the same.

Chronicle Highlighted in June APPA News

The May-June issue of the APPA News, it was reported that the May-June issue of the Chronicle reports

Community Restitution Program – Making a Difference at ARCH

Submitted by David Newman, CRP Administrative Coordinator, Northern Region

ARCH, the Arizona Recreation Center for the Handicapped, located in Phoenix, is an agency that makes a difference in the community it serves. Disabled youth and adults from all over the greater Phoenix area have many opportunities for sports and other recreational programs in a facility specifically built to meet their needs.

Over the years, many major companies and foundations have supported the important work of ARCH. Probationers that are court ordered to perform community restitution hours are assigned to various agencies and projects county-wide. Probationers have made major contributions to the success of ARCH as well and have, in turn, enriched their own lives and families in the process.

Joe Murray, the Director of Recreational Programs, attests to the contributions probationers have made. “For more than 20 years, probationers have performed all of the landscaping and janitorial services at the Center. Without community restitution work performed by probationers, we would have had to spend a great deal of money to provide essential services for our Center,” Mr. Murray indicated. “Not only essential routine services are performed. One of the probationers even installed the floor for our gymnasium.”

“Many probationers have come back on their own time,” he added. “They bring their families here to show them the work they have done in making the Center a better place. Several have continued to volunteer at the Center after they have successfully completed all of their community restitution hours.”

Mr. Murray added, “ We are really pleased by the significant contributions that the Community Restitution Program has made to our Center and all the people who use our facilities. And it is made even better by the impact we think we have made on the probationers and their families.”



Community residents play hoops on a gym floor that was laid during a Community Restitution Program project.



The ARCH grounds are beautifully maintained by Community Restitution Program projects.

Animal Abuse/Cruelty Treatment Possibility

For probation officers supervising people convicted of "animal abuse/cruelty" charges, there is a new counseling program (SocioEmpathic Interventions & Consulting, Animal Abuse Program) available, based on the premise of the PEACE program because of research showing a strong correlation between DV and animal abuse. A contracted PEACE counselor is starting groups as soon as she gets enough referrals. There are at least 14 such probationers, being supervised in the department now. This will be a "closed" group. They will start together and go through the whole 36 weeks together. The assessment is \$100.00 (a full psycho social), and \$25.00 per group. There will also be a similar program for juveniles. Anthony Church, DCA and Ms. Bowen-Wilson will be meeting with judges to outline the program for them, so it is possible to see this resource specifically ordered on probation terms in the very near future.

Gambling: The Hidden Addiction

Linda Savage, LCSW

A recent issue of the Addiction Messenger from the Northwest Frontier Addiction Technology Transfer Center, reported on gambling addiction. This addiction is not as obvious as someone who is addicted to alcohol, tobacco or other drugs, but is just as serious. It is reported that somewhere between 10-30% of those in treatment for drug or alcohol use disorders may have a gambling problem.”



This addiction is quite similar to alcohol-drug addictions in the denial, high tolerance, preoccupation, progressiveness, etc. The differences are that one cannot blood or urine test for it, and there is no slurring of speech or balance problems. Suicide rates are higher amongst gamblers than drug addicts, and there are financial problems that can become quite severe. There are also fewer treatment resources for this condition.

Video poker & slot machines are sometimes referred to as the “crack cocaine of gambling”. These individuals are addicted to the act of gambling, not the potential winnings. The addiction happens in 3 phases:

1. Adventurous or winning phase-where gambling is exciting and frequently includes a large win which the gambler believes is because of personal talent.
2. Losing phase-the gambler increases the amount of money spent trying to gain back on losses.
3. Desperation phase-the gambler takes more and more risks and gambles higher and higher amounts of money, frequently building up huge amounts of debt via credit cards, etc.

These phases do not go in a straight line but go back and forth depending on the situation.

Treatment is available for this condition. Gamblers Anonymous meetings can be accessed through:

<http://www.gaphoenix.org/>

602-266-9784 (Phoenix)

480-598-1226 (East valley),
480-275-0921

1-888-NOJUEGO (Spanish speakers)

The AZ Office of Problem Gambling can be accessed at: <http://www.problemgambling.az.gov/>

Agencies listed on their website include:

ACT - Counseling & Education

5010 East Shea Blvd., Suite D-202, Phoenix;

460 N. Mesa Drive, Mesa

4480 W. Peoria, Glendale;

602-569-4328; 1-866-413-0059 (toll free)

www.actcounseling.com

ABC Wellness Center

7219 E. Shea Blvd, Scottsdale

480-991-9818

www.abcwelnesscentre.org

Correction: The article about the Fresh Start Womens' Resource Center on Page 5 of the May-June 2006 edition did not have The Women's Center's email address. It is: www.WeHelpWomen.com

New Free Publication!

Principles of Drug Abuse Treatment for Criminal Justice Populations

Available at www.drugabuse.gov

20 Year Anniversary with MCAPD

**Tammy Hardy
Gary Tasi
Bryon Bauer
Julie George-Klein
Randy Tirado
Doug Frantz
Elizabeth Forton
Kim Boettcher
Pat Denowh
Joann (Jobi) Tinajera-Arens**

National Law Enforcement Conference 2006

Recently the City of Phoenix hosted the 2006 Law Enforcement Conference, which was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Weed and Seed. The conference theme was “*The Spirit of Service: Enforce, Empower and Revitalize,*” and focused on the latest trends in law enforcement to assist communities with preventing and controlling crime.

Garfield Center staff has worked actively with the Garfield neighborhood Weed and Seed program for years, was proud to be invited to participate as an Exhibitor. As one of forty-eight other exhibitors, the Department displayed photos and handed out materials highlighting some of the Department’s contributions to the Garfield neighborhood. These contributions included community restitution projects aimed at alleviating blight and assisting the indigent, providing educational opportunities to probationers and neighbors alike, all while maintaining a transitional living center designed to make it more likely that when probationers return to an independent living situation they have resources, support and the life skills necessary to be successful.

Many thanks to the probation staff who volunteered to man the booth throughout the three day conference including **Dominick Bueti, Tammy Aho, Rosella Roberts, Anne Merrill, Mike Moe, Marialice Haney, Joann Roskoski, Jack Dillon, Amelia Giordano, Brooke Heindl, Julie Quiroz, Diana Byers, and Christi Seger.** And thanks also to those who assisted with transportation back and forth from the site!

Thanks to Our Writers

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Your Stories Wanted!



*Interested in
submitting articles,
announcements or
success stories to
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Success Stories Welcome!

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Access *The Chronicle* on-line at:

<http://www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov/adultPro/pdf/chronicle.pdf>



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2. If an article receives significant edits, changes, additions, or deletions it will be returned to the writer for review before publication.
3. Good quality photos focusing upon the subject of the article may be submitted. All people in photos must be identified.
4. All non-employees in pictures and in articles must have a signed Publications - Consent for Release of Information on file. A copy can be obtained from Linda Savage.
5. Articles submitted for the *Chronicle* may be reproduced in other publications.